Amendments to the Specification:

Please re-write the following paragraphs as set forth below.

[00031]   In one embodiment, the first verification value generator 134 generates a first verification value 152 which is provided to the comparator 138. In one embodiment, the first verification value 132 value 152 is generated through the verification of the signed comparison data 120 using the data representing a certificate of interest 122. In the embodiment where the data representing a certificate of interest is the certificate, the certificate is utilized to decrypt the signed comparison data, therein generating the hashed certification authority identifier 114 and revocation reason data 116. In the embodiment where the data representing a certificate of interest 122 is a pointer, the first verification value generator 134 is operative to retrieve the certificate from the appropriate location and then perform the decryption process.